

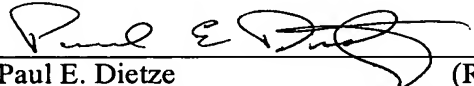
**REMARKS**

Original claims 15-29 and 41-55 are currently pending in this application for the Examiner's review and consideration. These claims represent Group II of non-elected claims previously presented in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/230,059, filed August 29, 2002, to which the above-captioned application claims priority. Claims 1-14 and 30-40 have been cancelled without prejudice and are being pursued in the parent application. No new matter has been added.

No fees are believed to be due for this submission. Should any fees be due, please charge the required fees to Pennie & Edmonds LLP Deposit Account No. 16-1150.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 4, 2003

  
Paul E. Dietze 45,627  
(Reg. No.)  
For: Thomas G. Rowan (Reg. No. 34,419)  
**PENNIE & EDMONDS** LLP  
1667 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
(202) 496-4400